

Compare and Contrast (Career Investigation)

<p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will read 2 career choice narratives of their choosing from an occupational outlook handbook and locate information using bold faced headings. • Students will record specifics using a graphic organizer. The information will be used for comparing and contrasting the two career descriptions and will assist participants in career exploration. 	<p>Time frame to Complete</p> <p>2 hours or 2 -1 hour sessions</p>												
<p>Standard(s) Addressed in Lesson</p>	<p>Read With Understanding</p>												
<p>Benchmark(s) Addressed in Lesson</p>	<p>R.4.1; R.4.11; R.4.12; R.4.15; R.4.16</p>												
<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Exploration Graphic Organizer • <i>Sample Bureau of Labor Career Exploration Graphic Organizer</i> • EZ Occupational Outlook Handbook Career Exploration Graphic Organizer • <i>Sample EZ Career Exploration Graphic Organizer</i> • Identifying Potential Occupations Survey <p>Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook (http://www.bls.gov/OCO/) • EZ occupational Outlook Handbook, Jist Publishing <p>Potential Vocabulary</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>annual</td> <td>career</td> <td>compare</td> <td>contrast</td> </tr> <tr> <td>gross/net pay</td> <td>median</td> <td>nature of work</td> <td>occupation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>projections</td> <td>qualifications</td> <td>significant</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		annual	career	compare	contrast	gross/net pay	median	nature of work	occupation	projections	qualifications	significant	
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<p>Activities</p> <p><u>Step 1</u> Introduce what an Occupational Outlook Handbook is and how it can be useful in learning about careers. Explain what information is given about each career and how it is organized in the source they are planning to use for their reading. Bring to the students' attention some vocabulary words and phrases that might be unfamiliar and give a brief definition of what each word means. (See sample vocabulary words.)</p> <p><u>Step 2</u> Distribute a sample reading taken from an Occupational Outlook Handbook that the students will use. Point out the bold headings that are listed on the page. Talk about what information they might find under each heading. Next, read a section of the listing out loud as a large group. People can volunteer or students can just</p>													

take turns. Discuss the title of the heading and what information was found under this heading. When finished reading, distribute the sample graphic organizer students will use to record information regarding the career. Make clear to the students that this organizer will help them recall particular information about individual careers and also help them to compare and contrast specific areas regarding two different careers. Walk participants through the filled in sample organizer based on the sample reading. Point out where the information was found in the reading that was used to fill out the chart.

Step 3 Once the students are familiar with the organizer, ask students to choose a career they are interested in learning more about. Multiple sources of the Occupational Outlook Handbook are needed so each student can locate their career choice. If not, make copies of the career choice descriptions that the students request and distribute the copies.

Step 4 Have participants read (Skim or Scan) the career choice selection. When they are finished have them fill out the Student Occupation #1 column on the graphic organizer. Make sure to remind them that not all the information is directly stated and they may have to make some generalizations or inferences. Also, they may have to summarize lengthy descriptions.

Step 5 Once they have completed the first occupation, have them select a second career that they might be interested in and repeat the process in the 2nd column. (*If they cannot think of another career to read about, they can look under the Related Jobs heading and choose an occupation that is related to the first career choice.*)

Step 6 Once both columns are completed, have students share some information they learned about their career choices. Ask them to compare and contrast the two careers.

Step 7 Now that the students have done some career exploration. Have them choose one of the careers that they explored in this lesson and use the information to complete the Identifying Potential Occupations Survey form.

Assessment/Evidence

- Completed Career Exploration Graphic Organizer
- Completed Identifying Potential Occupations Survey

Adaptations for Beginning Students

Activity could be done in very small groups with teacher acting as a model reader. Instructor could go through step by step filling out the graphic organizer. Lists could be created regarding similarities and differences between the two careers. Oral discussions could replace the written responses on the *Identifying Potential Occupations Survey* handout.

Adaptations for Advanced Students

- Upper level students might be challenged to write an essay comparing and contrasting the two careers.
- Ask students to do a short oral presentation presenting information learned about a career they chose to explore.

Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Exploration Graphic Organizer

<http://www.bls.gov/OCO/>

	Occupation #1	Occupation #2
Career Choice		
List one significant point concerning this job?		
What are some key points mentioned regarding the nature of this type of work?		
What education and/ or training are required?		
In what type of setting might you find employment?		
What is the outlook for this particular job?		
What is listed as the median hourly wage for this career?		
List at least two related occupations.		
Where could you go to find out more information about this career?		

Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Exploration Graphic Organizer

* SAMPLE *

	Occupation #1	Occupation #2
Career Choice	<i>Home health aide</i>	
List one significant point concerning this job?	<i>May work part time, weekends, and evenings to suit clients.</i>	
What are some key points mentioned regarding the nature of this type of work?	<i>Most aides work with elderly or physically or mentally disabled clients. Home care aides provide instruction and psychological support to their clients. Work under the direct supervision of a medical professional, usually a nurse.</i>	
What education and/ or training are required?	<i>Must receive formal training and pass a competency test to work for certified home health or hospice agencies. Personal and home care aides, face a wide range of requirements, which vary from State to State.</i>	
In what type of setting might you find employment?	<i>Home healthcare services, individual and family services, residential care facilities, and private households.</i>	
What is the outlook for this particular job?	<i>Excellent because of the rise in number of elderly people.</i>	
What is listed as the median hourly wage for this career?	<i>\$9.22-\$9.84</i>	
List at least two related occupations.	<i>Medical assistants Occupational therapists assistants and aides</i>	
Where could you go to find out more information about this career?	<i>National Association for Home Care and Hospice, 228 Seventh St. SE, Washington, DC 20003. Internet: http://www.nahc.org</i>	

EZ Occupational Outlook Handbook Career Exploration

	Occupation #1	Occupation #2
Career Choice		
What are the duties?		
What is the job setting?		
How many hours a day or a week is the job?		
Work alone or with people?		
What kind of equipment is used?		
What is the yearly salary? Monthly?/12 Weekly?/52		
Are there many jobs?		
What education and/or training are required?		

EZ Occupational Outlook Handbook Career Exploration

* SAMPLE *

	Occupation #1	Occupation #2
Career Choice	<i>Broadcast/Sound Engineer Technician</i>	
What are the duties?	<i>Set up, operate, and maintain electrical and electronic equipment involved in radio, television, concert, music or movies.</i>	
What is the job setting?	<i>Can be done indoors and outdoors. All types of weather. Heavy lifting and climbing may be involved.</i>	
How many hours a day or a week is the job?	<i>Various Hours are available 7 days a week so weekends and holidays are involved.</i>	
Work alone or with people?	<i>Work with few or many people.</i>	
What kind of equipment is used?	<i>Microphones, TV cameras, digital recorders, projectors, monitors, mixing boards, antennas, and computers.</i>	
What is the yearly salary? Monthly?/12 Weekly?/52	<i>\$18,000 starting salary \$1500 gross \$375 gross</i>	
Are there many jobs?	<i>95,000 jobs held 11,000 job openings a year Average increase in job outlook</i>	
What education and/or training are required?	<i>Associate degree On the job training</i>	

Identifying Potential Occupations Survey

Name _____

Date _____

What need or wants does this occupation fill?

What do you like most about this career?

Is there anything you may find difficult or anything you dislike or worries you about this career?

What one important thing do you think an employer would expect from you in this occupation?

What kind of people do you think might be attracted to this career? Are they the kind of co-workers you would like to work with?

Based on the above information, is this career a potential employment goal for you?

___yes ___no

Why?

